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Education and Public Health (1948) Department.

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Dated 1.4.48

[Despatch Abstract.]

SOCIAL WORK - PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE OF SOCIAL WORK - Resolutions - Papers recorded.

PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE OF SOCIAL WORK
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE GUILD OF SERVICE (SEVA SAMAJAM)

President:

Her Excellency Lady Nye.

Chairman:

Mrs. Madhava Menon.

'Philroy'
Nungambakkam High Road,
Cathedral P.O., Madras.

Telephone 8266.

10th February 1948.

Dear ~~Sir~~, Mr. Shetty.

I am enclosing herewith the findings of Groups 1 to 6 of the Provincial Conference of Social Work which was held under the auspices of the Guild of Service from the 9th to 12th of last month. I have marked the resolutions which pertain to the departments covered by your portfolio. I have been asked on behalf of the Conference, to convey these resolutions to you and request that those that are connected with the Government may be considered favourably.

Thanking you again for all your support for the Conference,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- MARY CLUBWALA

Hon. Secretary.

To ~~the Secretary for Public Health.~~

The Hon'ble Mr. Shetty.
Minister for Public Health.

~~Madras~~.

PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE OF SOCIAL WORK
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE GUILD OF SERVICE (SEVA SAMAJAM)

Minutes of the Plenary Sessions of Groups 1,2 and 3 i.e. State & Social Service, Youth Welfare and Rural Welfare, held at 2.30 p.m. on the 10th January 1948 at the Banqueting Hall.

The Plenary Sessions of the above 3 groups met at 2-30 p.m. on Saturday, the 10th January 1948, under the presidentship of Dr. M. Sir, A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar.

The proceedings opened with a short speech by the president. Dr. U. Krishna Rao, the Chairman of Group 2, was then called upon to move the resolutions of his Group.

Dr. U. Krishna Rao gave the house a gist of the proceedings of Youth Welfare Group. He then moved the following resolution on 'Scout Unity'.

This Conference is of opinion that there should be one Indian Scout Association governing the Boy Scout and Girl Guide movements.

This Conference recommends that it shall be called the Indian Scout and Girl Guide Association.

This Conferfence calls upon the various Scout organisations and leaders to come together and take steps to give immediate effect to th above resolution.

As a first step, this Conference requests the Mayor of Madras to call for a Unity Conference of all India leaders to be held at Madras to decide this question.

This resolution was seconded by Mr. Loganatha Mudaliar of the Boys Scout Association.

This resolution was carried unanimously.

Dr. Krishna Rao then moved the following resolution on "Playgrounds Movement":

This Conference is of opinion that a plan for a community recreation should be immediately drawn up, and that a committee of 5 with power to co-opt be appointed for the purpose. As a first step, this Committee shall within two weeks present to the Standing Committee of the Provincial Conference of Social Work a complete programme for the immedia development in the City of Madras and use of five centres in open spaces belonging to Government, public bodies like the Madras Corporation, churches or schools and private individuals, along these new lines.

Seconded by Mr. S.R. Venketaraman.

The members of the Committee who would go into this question would be

MRS. BUCK,
DR. ANDREWS,
MR. LAWRENCE BURR,
Mr. KOTHANADARAMA MUDALIAR.
MR. SOLOMON.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The third resolution moved by Dr. Krishna Rao read as follow

P.T.O.

The Conference is of opinion that it is a matter of prime importance for the youth of the country to be taken care of and led along healthy and proper lines. For this purpose, it appoints a Committee to (1) call for a meeting of all interested in youth welfare and also youth leaders.
(2) consider the possibilities of forming a federation of all youth welfare movements
(3) draw up a programme for youth welfare and progress
(4) report to the standing committee of the Provincial Conference of Social Work within three months.

Seconded by Mrs. Batliwala.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

GROUP 3.

Dewan Bahadur V. Bashyam Iyengar, Chairman of Rural Welfare Group, gave a summary of the proceedings of his Group.

He then moved the following resolution.

This Conference is of opinion that Rural Work is of the utmost importance in the programme of National Reconstruction. It therefore affirms its faith in Gandhiji's programme of Rural uplift work as carried on by various constructive organisations such as the All India Spinners' Association, the Harijan Sevak , The Kasturba Trust, The All India Village Industries Association, The Talimi Sangh and the Go Seva Sangh and Resolves that this Conference do proceed to work on similar lines and in consultation and co-operation with such organisations.

Seconded by Mr. N.K. Vinayakam.

There was opposition to the resolution as originally moved by the Chairman of the Group, which limited the scope of the work to those of the above organisations. The mover accepted an amendment whereby the scope of the programme was made more elastic and the amended resolution read as above.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The 2nd resolution moved by Mr. Bashyam Iyengar ran as follows:

As the State is assuming wider powers for the Socio-economic well-being of the people and as co-ordination of the work of the various departments which now deal separately with the problems connected with social welfare is necessary in the interests of both economy and efficiency, this Conference resolves that a separate Department of Government be constituted under a Minister to deal with all Social Welfare problems.

Seconded by Mr. L.N. Gopalaswami.

Mr. S.R. Venkataraman pointed out, this resolution was being brought in by the 1st Group, State and Social Service. So, was it necessary for this Group to deal with this matter?

The President said it was only a recommendation to the Final Sessions.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The 3rd resolution ran as follows:-

P.T.O.

This Conference resolves that a Provincial Association be formed to organise, affiliate, coordinate and guide the work that is now being carried on in the Field of Social Service by various Institutions of the Province.

Proposed by Mr. Bashyam Iyengar.

Seconded by Mr. N.K. Vinayakam.

Mr. Bashyam Iyengar observed that at the All-India Conference of Social Work in Bombay, a similar Association was formed for the purpose.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Resolution No.4 proposed By Mr. Bashyam Iyengar and seconded by Mrs. Lakshmi.

This Conference resolves that one or more training centres be opened in rural areas, to train social workers, for villages. Such workers shall live in the village, share in the joys and sorrows of the villagers, serve as their friend, philosopher and guide, and by dint of their work, make themselves indispensable.

Mr. Mathnubhootham was of the view that it would be better to stop with the first part of the resolution. The latter part, he said, was only a pious hope which would not carry us far.

Mr. L.N. Gopalaswamy ~~differred~~ differed from the previous speaker. He said that the village worker should indentify himself with the villagers and there was no use standing out of the firex and saying fire will be hot or cold. The first part was a sine qua non for any rural worker if he is to be of a real service, and the second part was complimentary to the first.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Resolution No.5

This Conference resolves that in rural welfare work, the oppressed and down-trodden classes like Harijan and Adivasis do get priority of treatment, so that they may take their rightful place as early as possible, in the village community.

Proposed by Mr. Bashyam Ayengar.
Seconded by Mr. Azariah.

Passed unanimously.

Resolution No.6

With a view to better the condition of the villages and make them prosperous, autonomous and self-sufficient as far as possible, this Conference resolves that Village Panchayats be constituted in each village with sufficient powers to look after every aspect of the corporate life of the village community.

Proposed by Mr. Bashyam Iyengar,
Seconded by Mr. N.K. Vinayakam.

Mr. Bashyam Iyengar stressed the need to revive the village panchayats which had suffered ruin on account of neglect. It was necessary to treat the villages as a corporate one.

P.T.O.

One member said that this matter was under the consideration of the Provincial Government and an Act in this connection was due to be passed. He pleaded for a little waiting on our part and not to hasten the resolution.

Mr. Loganatha Mudaliar remarked that this question was one of prime importance. If the Government did anything of their own, well and good. But we could not afford to wait.

Mr. S.R. Venkataraman also supported the resolution. From any point of view, village panchayats should develop a democratic form of Government. The Panchayats could help the Government in such matters as prohibition. The Government could save money in the enforcement of prohibition if they had the cooperation of village panchayats.

The resolution was passed by a large majority.

The Resolution,8

This Conference emphasises the vital part that cooperation can play in rural uplift and suggests that full and wide use be made of cooperative organisations in promoting the economic, social and moral improvements of the people in villages.

In particular, the conference resolves that multi-purposes societies be formed in each village (if the population is 2000 or more) or in groups of smaller villages, so that they can effectively tackle all the economic problems of the villages such as supply of funds, marketing of agricultural produce and the supply of domestic and agricultural requirements of the villager.

That the existing rural credit societies be developed on multi-purpose lines so that they can serve the entire economic needs of the villages.

Moved by Mr. Bashyam Iyengar,

Seconded by Mrs. P.T. Rajagopal.

Carried unanimously.

Resolution No.9

This Conference impresses upon the Government and all organisations working for social welfare in villages the necessity to pay special attention to the following needs in particular, viz.

1. Good and safe water supply.
2. Hygienic and Sanitary condition of living
3. All-round adult education
4. Presentation and improvement of the cattle wealth.

Proposed by Mrx. Bashyam Iyengar,
Seconded by Mrs. Alamelumangai Thayar Ammal.

The resolution was passed unanimously.

P.T.O.

Group 1 - STATE & SOCIAL SERVICE.

Mrs. M.N. Clubwala, Chairman of this Group, in presenting the report of her Group, said that they had two sessions on State and Social Service.

The following papers were read:

1. Private Philanthropy by Mr. T.R. Venkatarama Sastri,
2. Public Responsibility to Social Service by Rotarian Mr. Chartrand.
3. Social Welfare & Coordination of Social Work by Mrs. M.N. Clubwala.
4. Legal Aid by Mrs. Azariah.
5. Prison Reform by Mrs. Madhava Menon.
6. Probation work by Mr. Palani.
7. The aged and the disabled by Mr. C. Narasimhan, Commissioner of the Corporation of Madras.
8. Slum work in the city by Mrs. Kurian.
9. Mobile Hospital Units by Dr. Ponniah.

The papers were read first and discussions ensued after the reading of each paper.

The Hon'ble Mr. T.S. Avinasilingam Chettiar, Minister for Education, also gave a beautiful lecture on the 10th monning on the aims of social works and the spirit of social service.

Mrs. Clubwala also apologised to those members to whom she could not give sufficient time in the morning to speak on the papers as time was pressing. She asked them to express their views at this sessions.

All the following resolutions were moved by Mrs. Clubwala.

1. It is resolved that all efforts be made to continue to solicit private individuals and organisations to give all that they could in time and money, realising that the private individual brings the personal influence, interest and directness sometimes lost sight of in Governmental bureaucracy.

   Seconded by Mr. S.R. Venkataraman.

   Passed Unanimously.

2. It is resolved that every effort be made to draft the public, the elements making up a democracy, to give their time and money in both Governmental and Charitable enterprise and supplementing the other.

   Seconded by Mr. N.K. Vinayakam.

   Passed unanimously.

3. It is further resolved in continuation of Resolutions 1 and 2 that a practical application begin with Prison Reform, Probation Work and Legal Aid. Thse aspects were discussed by those with experience as jail visitors, and inmates of jails (as political prisoners)

Special recommendations are - prison reform, probation work and legal aid.

(a) It is suggested that Government be requested to entrust the actual running of the Chreche in the Women's Jail in Vellore to voluntary organisations such as the Guild of Service and others, because, at present, children in the Creche are looked after only by one of the inmates of the jail.

(b) It is further resolved that Government be requested to recruit warders in all jails from persons who have better training and have a special aptitude for social work and that matters such as physical amenities and the teaching of more suitable craft to the adaptability of the prisoners, be given immediate attention.

P.T.O.

(c) Resolved further that more attention be paid to the personal cleanliness and hygiene of the inmates of the jail.

(d) Though efforts are being made for helping them, discharged prisoners should be treated differently that their rehabilitation should be on practical lines and they no longer be treated as out-castes.

(e) It is further resolved to suggest that Government appoint as Honorary visitors those who have an interest in and approach to, prison reform work.

(f) It is also suggested that Government be requested to intensify and expand probation work, both for adults and juveniles. When this is succesfully done, it will relieve overcrowding in certified Schools.

(g) It is further resolved that juvenile probation and adult probation to work successfully, be operated and not combined as at present.

(h) It is further resolved that the scheme which is under consideration by the Guild of Service and a group of lawyers offering their legal services free should be formed at an early date and should start its work not only helping the discharged prisoners, but all those in need of guidance, advice and legal aid, with special reference to the domestic difficulties of the middle and lower classes.

Seconded by Mrs. Azariah, and passed unanimously.

4. Resolved that an information bureau be started to collect data and details of different organisations for the information of the interested public and also to serve as a Central Clearing House.

Seconded by Dewan Bahadur V. Bashyam Iyengar.

Mrs. Clubwala that an information bureau would be very useful because people from other parts of India come and ask for information. If we had an information in conjunction with others, as for instance the Y.M.I.A. we could collect all information and supply them where required.

Carried unanimously.

5. It is resolved that Military and Civil contacts in the Madras Area which had worked so well, would still further be intensified through the Indian Hospitality Committee (Armed Forces Welfare)

Seconded by Mr. S.R. Venkataraman and carried unanimously.

6. It is resolved that Government be requested to enforce the provisions of the Prevention of Begging Act in all Municipal towns and to organise special homes for the inform and the disabled through local charity of by local bodies receiving specific assitance from the Government and to direct that all able bodied beggars be suitably taken care of.

Speakers pointed out that the Government should take immediate steps in this connection and it alone could undertake this huge problem.

Seconded by Mrs. Lakshmi, the resolution was carried unanimously.

7. It was resolved that, to attain a successful working of voluntary and Government organisations, it requests that Government may be pleased to constitute a separate Minister for public and Social Welfare thereby to coordinate all social work including all departments of social work.

P.T.O.

It was unanimously resolved that the work of social work and welfare organisations be ocordinated without unduly centralizing the same, with an idea to avoid overlapping work and maintaining its voluntary nature.

The President, Dr. Lakshmanaswamy Mudaliar, observed that as a similar resolution had been passed by the Rural Welfare Group, this resolution lapsed. Mrs. Clubwala replied that the resolution should really have come from her Group first and the delay in finalizing the resolutions had resulted in Group 1 submitting the resolutions after Groups 2 and 3. The President suggested that the resolution be placed to the final sessions as a recommendation of both Groups 1 and 3.

Seconded by Mrs. Madhava Menon, the resolution was carried unanimously.

8. It is resolved to try, either through a donor or through voluntary effort, and establish at an early date a school of social work run on practical and useful lines, short and suitable to the requirements of the country and the needs of the people.

Mr. S.R. Venkataraman in seconding the resolution dwelt on the need for training social service workers in their work. Social workers had to be equipped with the knowledge capacity to run an office and manage it.

The resolution was passed unanimously.

9. This Conference appeals to the Central and Provincial Government to draft and liberally subsidise a scheme for the complete eradication of slums by popularising the Octavia Hill Scheme of Slum improvement with suitable modifications.

Mrs. Kurian seconded the resolution.

Miss Thivy suggested a survey of all the slums in the City as a first step in this direction.

Mr. S.R. Venkataraman said that in Madras City, many poor men were living in slums. The existence of slums was a measure of public health. Slums breed diseases. We must seriously work for the abolition of slums, and the provision of good housing accommodation for the dwellers.

Mrs. Kurian supported the views of the previous speaker.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

10. Resolved that in the scheme of slum reform and reclamation, high priority should be given to the housing programme.

Seconded by Mr. S.R. Venkataraman and carried unanimously.

11. Resolved further that the Corporation, the Industrial establish - ment and the Government do take steps to train slum people in slum welfare centres to shed their slum habits and learn to live a clean, healthy and sociable life, under proper discipline and control, so that they could lead a normal life when they move into new building when they are provided for them.

Seconded by Mrs. Kurian and carried unanimously.

12. It is resolved that a Mobile Unit for work in the slums and cheris on the pattern of the Mobile Units at Vellore and Bombay be started in Madras City under the auspices of voluntary bodies.

Seconded by Mr. S.K. Sundaram.

Carried unanimously.

P.T.O.

The Chairman, Dr. Sir Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar, in conclusion thanked the Chairman of the three groups. The business-like manner in which they had conducted the proceedings augured well for the future. We were all interested in social work. This was true, not only of city people, but of villagers as well. To achieve success in social service, what was required was not money, but the will of the men and women behind it. He congratulated the women volunteers of Madras City for the good work they were doing, especially in Cheri work, visiting of Municipal markets and so on. He said it was necessary that all should close their ranks and put up a united front in social service. He was glad Madras had taken a lead in this matter, and hoped that the resolutions would be implemented in the spirit in which they were passed.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks by Mrs. M.N. Clubwala.

MARY N. CLUBWALA,
Hon. General Secretary.

PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE OF SOCIAL WORK
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE GUILD OF SERVICE (SEVA SAMAJAM)

Monday, 12th Jany. 1948.

The Plenary Sessions of the three Groups 4, 5 and 6 viz. Public Health & Child Welfare Services, Rehabilitation of the Delinquent and Training & Equipment of Social Work and Training Institution for Social Workers, commenced at 9.30 a.m. with Col. S.L. Bhatia, Surgeon-General in the Chair.

After a few opening remarks by the Chairman, the House took up the Resolutions of Group 4.

1. This Conference urges on the Government the need to attract Women Medical Officers to the Public Health Service in the Maternity and Child Welfare Department, and is of opinion that such recruitment is possible only if adequate scales of pay and conditions of service are offered and with this end in view, recommends the recruitment of Women Graduates in Medicine in to Gazetted ranks of the Service.

2. The Conference is of the opinion that a much larger number of Health Visitors should be trained, and to attract the right type of persons and midwives and Health Visitors, the pay and conditions of service should be considerably improved.

Proposed
by Col. S.L. Bhatia.
Seconded by L.Col. Ford Thomson.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

2. This conference is of the opinion that it is very necessary and desirable that a system of Hospital Social Service be organised at an early date, and with this end in view, recommends the early establishment of a Training Centre for Hospital Social Workers and the employment of such trained Social Workers at least in the larger hospitals of this Presidency, as soon as possible. This Conference is of the opinion that such trained social workers under an Almoner would help to serve as a nucleus for voluntary workers to cooperate with in the work of social service in the hospitals of the Province.

Proposed by Col. S.L. Bhatia.
Seconded by Mr. P. Isiah.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

P.T.O.

3. This Conference is of the opinion that it is urgently necessary to provide adequate facilities for the prophylaxis and treatment of venereal diseases and, while appreciating the measures taken upto the present by the Provincial Government, it strongly recommends that Headquarters Hospitals, Municipalities and Industrial Centres, such Clinics as have already been suggested by Dr. Rajam to the Government in his memoranda.

This Conference is also of the opinion that propaganda should be carried on to educate the public about the nature and effect of such diseases and to this end, requests the Government and Social Service Organisations to cooperate in such organised propaganda.

Proposed by Col. S.L. Bhatia.
Seconded by Dewan Bahadur V. Bashyam Iyengar.

Mrs. M.N. Clubwala suggested that immediate steps be taken in this direction and requested the Surgeon-General to arrange for a series of lectures on this subject.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

4. This Conference resolves to urge on the Provincial Government that an up-todate cancer hospital for treatment and research should be started in Madras and other centres to provide facilities for the early diagnosis and treatment of cancer so that this specialised treatment may be within easy reach of all.

Proposed by Col. S.L. Bhatia.
Seconded by Mr. S.R. Venkataraman.

Members raised doubt as to the desirability of starting a specialised hospital for cancer alone. It was pointed out that Malaria, Leprosy and Ø other diseases should also engage as much attention. India could not afford, under existing conditions, to undertake a thorough investigation into all the aspects of Cancer and we should take advantage of institutions in other countries who were specialising in the subject.

Mrs. Mona Hensman observed that the Cancer that was prevalent among Indians was not identical to what was incidental in other countries. She was of the view that while other diseases should not be neglected, a special hospital for cancer was very necessary.

Dr. Dhairyam assured the house that we were not aiming to swallow more than we could chew. What was being aimed at was an instiution in our Province on the lines that Tata's had in Bombay where we could give expert scientific treatment. In our Province we were badly wanting an up-to-date Cancer Hospital.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

5. This Conference urges upon social workers the need to take an increasing interest in the problems connected with the social aspect of leprosy and help in solving them.

This Conference urges the Government to start a Publicity and Welfare Department for Leprosy.

Also to organise agricultural and industrial colonies for those in whom the disease has been arrested.

Also to provide for suitable occupational therapy and physiotherapy at all Leprosy Sanatoria.

This Conference urges that social work for Leprosy be a part of any scheme for training social workers.

Proposed by Col. S.L. Bhatia.
Seconded by Mrs. Maday.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

P.T.O.

GROUP V.

Lt. Col. Ford Thomson gave a short resume of the proceedings of his Group. The following resolutions were then taken up:

1. This Conference resolves that every organisation represented at this Conference, and every branch of those organisations, shall endeavour, through their members, to find destitute children and persuade suitable people to accept them into their ~~facilities~~ and undertake to care for and educate the children until they can stand on their own feet and earn a living, it being understood that the ~~families~~ families will be given children to care for subject to satisfactory investigation by a responsible official of the organisation concerned, and that a monthly report ~~of~~ be submitted by all organisations here represented, stating the number of children who have been placed in families, and the names of the people with whom they have been placed, these names to be inscribed in a Roll of Honour to be prepared by the Executive Committee and that the Executive Committee should report on the results of this united effort to the next annual Conference.

Proposed by Lt. Col. Ford Thomson.
Seconded by Mrs. M.N. Clubwala.

Mr. Lawrence Burr was apprehensive that by entrusting children to the care of families, we were running the risk of the children being not cared for properly by those under whom they were placed. He cited that even among one's own children, the treatment accorded to each differed and hence, if a feeling entered the minds of guardians that these children were not, after all, their own children, it was likely to affect the upbringing of these unfortunate ones. Such a contingency was sad to contemplate. Again, there was no standard fixed as to which families could be entrusted safely to care for these children.

The mover of the resolution, Lt. Col. Ford Thomson, pointed out that the problem was really complicated, but this was only an attempt to get something done. The problem was one of urgent necessity and by judicious choice ~~difficulty referred to~~ on the part of the organisations, it was possible to overcome the difficulty referred to by Mr. Burr.

Mr. Lawrence Burr was still sceptical about the outcome of such a scheme which, while it might be good in the conditions prevalent in the Western Countries, in India where people had a sentimental outlook would not work. He said that it was first necessary to create the proper atmosphere in the country when people would shed their sentimental notions.

Mrs. Subbaroyan was of the view that many families were finding it difficult to even to maintain their own children. How were they, then, going to work this scheme successfully. It was anticipated that the Government would do something in the matter. Why could not we wait for a year instead of rushing this resolution through?

Dr. Mrs. Chinnappa said that the resolution as it stood implied a kind of recognition for people who take the children in their homes. This was not in consonance with the spirit of the service which animated this Conference. She would urge that those who volunteered to take children into their families would not seek recognition.

Doubts were also raised in the course of the debate that the children brought up in a family may claim a share of the property and that they would misuse it. Lt. Col. Ford Thomson dismissed these doubts as unfounded. Proper attention to the types of families, before children were committed to their care, would solve the problem. As to the point whether we were in a position to undertake the care of 200,000 to 300,000 children which should really form the burden of the Government, the mover of the resolution remarked that our effort was only complimentary to what the Government might do. Moreover, if we were frightened at the outset, by the immensity of the problems confronting us, we, as social workers, sould be making a very bad start.

The resolution was carried by a large majority.

P.T.O.

2. This Conference resolves that a Children's Home Fund shall be instituted: this fund to be administered by the Executive Committee. It is hoped that those people who are approached to take children into their families, and whole not desiring to do so, wish to help the cause, will subscribe money towards the upkeep of a destitute child. This Conference hopes that sufficient money will be subscribed to enable the Executive Committee to start a home for destitute children before the next Annual Conference.

This resolution was moved by Lt. Col. Ford Thomson and Seconded by Mrs. V.T. Lakshmi.

Discussion on this resolution centred round the desirability of making use of existing facilities available for the care of children before we launched on further money-raising schemes. The Y.M.C.A. Boys' Section and the Corporation Poor Boys Home were prepared to take in more children. Miss Kokila Doraiswami mentioned that the only institution now available to orphan girls to be admitted were the Seva Sadan and the Avvai Home which were over-crowded. The Y.M.C.A. and the Corporation Poor Boys School were prepared to take in only boys and not girls. So, those, who could not be sent to these institutions, were now being sent to the Certified Schools. Besides, when it came to a question of affording facilities would to ALL the children who needed admission, the existing facilities would prove to be most inadequate.

The resolution was put to vote and carried, with 3 dissidents.

3. This Conference resolves that Government be approached with a view to the institution of an anti-vice police squad and a corps of women police, the object being primarily the elimination of traffickers in human beings.

Proposed by Lt. Col. Ford Thomson
Seconded by Mr. Omar.

Carried unanimously.

4. This Conference resolves that a corps of psychiatric social workers be instituted and that the Surgeon-General be approached to afford facilities for training the workers.

Proposed by Lt. Col. Ford Thomson,
Seconded by Mr. MS.D. Jackson.

The resolution as originally proposed recommended that the Government be approached to afford facilities for training the workers. The mover of the resolution accepted an amendment that the word "Surgeon-General" be substituted for "Government".

The resolution was carried unanimously.

5. It is strongly recommended that young girls rescued from prostitution be kept separate from hardened prostitutes.

Proposed by Lt. Col. Ford Thomson
Seconded by Mrs. Alamelumangai Thayar Ammal.

The original resolution also referred to the establishment of a training centre. Mrs. Parijatham Naidu brought to the notice of the House that this matter was under the consideration of the Government. Hence, the mover agreed to withdraw the first part of the resolution and the latter part which runs as above, was carried unanimously.

P.T.O.

6. This Conference strongly recommends to Government the introduction of legislation enabling a child who is blind, deaf, or dumb to be taken from the custody of its parents and placed in a suitable institution for specialised training, in the absence of the chil's being properly educated.

Proposed by Lt. Col. Ford Thomson
Seconded by Miss Kokila Doraiswami.

Carried unanimously.

GROUP 6.

The Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas, Chairman of this Group, remarked that though Training and Equipment of Social Work and Training Institution for Social Workers happened to be the last Group in the Agenda, nevertheless, it was the most important. In order to implement the resolutions of the ~~eth~~ other groups, it was necessary to have a trained personnel and that was the only way of putting the ting on enduring foundations. If the work was to last, to be carried on under difficulties, to be carried on with increasing strength and usefulness in the years to come, it must have a trained personnel. So, this group assumed great importance. Training, equipment, background, persistent discipline, were all necessary in order to equip a social worker.

He then gave a short account of the deliberations in his Group. Resolutions were then taken up.

1. In view of the increasing importance of social welfare work and the greater responsibility which the State is assuming for implementing measures for social amelioration, this Conference resolves that Government be requested to constitute a separate department of social welfare with a Minister in charge.

Proposed by Hon. Mr. Danial Thomas.
Seconded by Mr. N.K. Vinayakam.

Carried unanimously.

2. Realising the importance of equipping the younger generation to deal adequately with problems of social welfare, this Conference resolves to request the Government and the authorities of the Universities in Madras Province to provide for courses of study in Sociology in all High Schools and Colleges.

Proposed by Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas,
Seconded by Dewan Bahadur V. Bashyam Iyengar.

Mr. Lawrence Burr was of the view that it was not proper to insist on every student to have a compulsory training in social service. Another member pointed out that the present curriculum in the schools and colleges was by itself so large that any further addition would prove the last straw on the camel's back. At this stage, the Hon'ble Mr. Daniel Thomas intervened to say that once we gave it as our view that social work should form a very important field of activity of all citizens, it behoves us to see that, if it was too much to expect the students to take this item as an extra curriculum, there should be a thorough overhauling of the system of education so that social service formed also a main subject of their study.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

In view of the urgent importance for providing trained personnel to carry on Social Welfare Work, this Conference urges that arrangements be made to start immediately a Social Welfare Training Institute in the City of Madras, to train both men and women workers for the Province, providing a two-year course.

Proposed by Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas.
Seconded by Mr. S.R. Venkataraman.

The resolution as originally proposed urged that the Government be requested to start such a school. Mr. Lawrence Burr asked

P.T.O.

if it was wise to leave this matter to the Government to deal with. Had ~~it~~ not the Government already got enough projects with them which they were not able to implement? He suggested that the responsibility to start the Training School be placed on the Conference.

Mrs. Subbaroyan suggested an amendment to the effect that the responsibility for starting the Institute be left on the Conference of course, with Governmental assistant, if it was forthcoming.

The resolution as amended read as given above. It was carried unanimously.

4. In following up the previous resolution, this Conference further urges that short-term courses of training be provided in 4 regional areas of the Province, both for voluntary workers and to give refresher courses to paid social workers already in the field.

Proposed by Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas,
Seconded by Mrx. S.R. Venkataraman.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas then moved a resolution which said 'In view of the ~~xxx~~ very difficult and responsible work carried on by paid full time social workers, to raise their status and provide salary and emoluments commensurate with their responsbilities, this Conference urges on the Government of India to start in cooperation with ~~the~~ various provincial Governments and Indian States, an All-India Sociological Institute for training teachers in sociology.

Prof. Motwani seconded the resolution.

Mrs. M.N. Clubwala opposed the resolution as it stood. She said that this Conference had been called to deal with problems in the Madras Province only and there was the All-India body to deal with matters outside the Province. She was of the opinion that it would be immodest on our part to put on ourselves the responsibility for what was the parent body's.

Mr. L.N. Goplaswami was of the view that this may be a recommendation to the Central body.

Prof. Motwani informed the House that the question of starting an All India Sociological Institute for training teachers in sociology was already under the consideration of the Government of India and nothing was to be lost in making this recommendation, whether the Government fulfilled our recommendation or not.

Mrs. Clubwala retorted that one was tired of paper resolutions. We must resolve to do things we could implement.

The Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas accepted Mrs. Clubwala's view and accepted an amendment which would make the resolution read as follows:

5. In view of the very difficult and responsible work carried on by paid full time social workers, this Conference urges the Government to raise their status and provide salary and emoluments commensurate with their responsibilities.

The resolution as amended was carried unanimously.

6. That a Board of Public relations be formed consisting of both officials and non-officials to carry on publicity activities by arranging meetings and lectures in educational institutions to create an atmosphere of social-mindedness.

Proposed by Hon'ble Mr. Daniel Thomas.
Seconded by Mr. N.K. Vinayakam.

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Mr. L.N. Gopalaswami observed that the word 'propaganda' as used in the original resolution connoted a meaning that could not be associated with social service. He urged the withdrawal of the resolution.

Mr. Daniel Thomas was prepared to substitute the phrase 'Public Relations' instead of 'Propaganda', but he insisted that it was necessary to educate the public on the different aspect of social work, to exchange ~~hm~~ views with other Provinces, to pool our knowledge and supply information where it was required. He implored that the resolution be carried with the amendment.

The House accepted the amended resolution unanimously.

7. This Conference recommends to the Ministry of Defence that efforts be made to spare members of the armed forces to undergo training in social service to work in liaison with civilian personnel for the promotion of general social life and welfare. w/ with a view to establish social contact with civilian.

Proposed by Hon'ble Mr. Daniel Thomas
Seconded by Mr. N.K. Vinayakam.
opposed
A member/~~of~~ the resolution and asked whether the Military was being brought into the picture due to dearth of civilian workers. Mrs. Clubwala replied that it was to dispel the prejudice on the part of the civilian population towards the Military that this resolution was being brought forward. She announced that it was the wish of the Defence Department there should be liaison and better citizenship of the Armed Forces and Civilians, and that through the Indian Hospitality Committee (Armed Forces Welfare), with the co-operation of the then G.O.C., Major General Shrinagesh and the present G.O.C., a scheme had been prepared by which the Armed forces could help in social services during their leisure hours.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The following resolutions which were carried in the Group meeting were withdrawn by the Hon'ble Mr. Daniel Thomas in the light of remarks offered against resolution 5 above.

"This Conference desires to place on record its earnest wish that Social Service Training Centres should be started in all Provinces and States of India and in carrying out such schemes, this Conference is willing to place at the disposal of Institutions engaged in such work, the services of experienced personnel of this Province".

"This Conference requests the Government of India to take steps to form an Indian Academy of Social Sciences which may comprise well-established Academic Associations in India and which may form an integral part of the proposed Indian National Cultural Trust. This Conference further suggests that the first Conference of this body be held in Delhi."

Mrs. Madhava Menon then thanked every one of those present for their cooperation in the Conferences, but for which it could not have been such a tremendous success. She knew that they were not expecting thanks for their services, for service was its own reward. Yet, she could not help saying what came from the bottom of her heart.

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Mrs. Clubwala thanked Her Excellency Lady Nye who had helped the Conference in so many directions, besides giving a lovely garden party. She felt with the House great happiness in having His Excellency to preside over the opening day. She thanked all the Hon. Secretaries, Office-bearers, Group Chairmen, Recorders and others who had taken keen interest in the Conference. She was grateful to the Press, to the volunteers and others who had cooperated so well. She also thanked the Government for permitting the use of the Banqueting Hall. She invited criticism from the members which might be useful when organising the next Conference.

Her Excellency Lady Nye, in her concluding remarks, said:

I start with an apology: we are one hour and forty four minutes late from our original programme. To me, that is important. A great deal of planning and discipline are indispensable. Let us plan it among ourselves.

This Conference has succeeded beyond the wildest of my dreams. And the reason for that success is the spontaneous enthusiasm we have received from all quarters. That in itself has made the whole thing work very well. It has not been without flaws - but that is inevitable. One of the greatest things that has come out of this Conference is that delegates from all parts of the Province, including many tried social workers and enthusiastic ~~youngers~~ youngsters interested in the work, have come together They have shown enthusiasm, keenness of sensible leadership, a sense of helpful argument that is refreshing. I am sure all of ~~x~~ you will agree with me that, as a result of this Conference, we have all determined to do something tangible in the field of service.

The primary need at present is to start a central school for training social workers. Whatever we may talk about, there is no doubt that we cannot progress very far without a certain amount of training. There are two categories of training - short-term and long-term. I would like to have a short course for voluntary workers, who should pay for their course according to their means and a much more comprehensive course for the future paid social workers, who should pass some minimum test. I would like to be turned out of that school, persons fitted for some vital work like hospital visiting, prison reform, discharged prisoners' aid and work among the delinquents. A course on the responsibilities and difficulties of Government, ~~discharged~~ on general basic psychology of how to deal with fellow human beings, a course of family budgets, ~~x~~ large and small, on food values in relation to the food of the country, first aid, the basic principles of nursing and the segregation of infectious diseases, may be considered. I have heard a great deal of the existing courses of social service in this country and others. They are all terribly inclined to be theoretical, too wide, too technical. I believe in learning a few things well. If we can start such a school before the next Conference, I think, we may reasonably be satisfied. Let us not wait. Let us do it ourselves.

I do not propose to refer to the resolutions during which we advised wisdom to this or that. I have no doubt that those resolutions which can be afforded by Government will get the consideration they deserve. I am more concerned with the resolutions which should, and must, be implemented by ourselves. The word resolution is rather a wide word. It can mean a resolve to do something. It can also mean a pious hope. I am delighted to find how few of the resolutions passed at this Conference have been pious hopes. There have been some practical plans suggested out of the discussions, Let us fix a time-limit and see that the objective is achieved within the time-limit. Please, please, do not sit on it. Try and see that the thing really is done. Make up your mind to fulfil, with all your conscience, to do some practical thing, as a result of all your deliberations here. Let us all resolve within ourselves and let us get at it (Cheers)

MARY N. CLUBWALA.
Hon. Genl. Secretary.

P.T.O.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
Education & P.H. Department.
Memorandum No.10575 F1/48-1 P.H. dated 24-3-48.

Sub:- Provincial Conference of Social Work - Resolutions.
Ref:- From the Honorary Secy. Provincial Conference of Social Work letter dated 10-2-1948.

A copy of the resolutions, passed at the Provincial Conference of Social Work held from 9th to 12th Jan. 1948, relating to the improvement of slums is communicated to the Commissioner, Corporation of Madras, and the Chairman, Madras City ~~Improx~~ Improvement Trust for information.

T. GOVINDA MENON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner, Corporation of Madras.
To the Chairman, Madras City Improvement Trust.

(True copy)

Superintendent,
Madras Record Office.

ICB/.-

29/6.

Note file.

Education & P.H. Deptt.(F1)

From the Hon. Secretary, Provincial Conference of Social Work - letter dated 10-2-1948.

Sub:- PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE OF SOCIAL WORK - RESOLUTION.

H.M.'S ORDER ON PAGE ~~1~~ 15 CF.

J.S. The resolutions pertaining to the medical and public health departments may be examined.

A.B. Shetty.
11.2.48.

The resolutions passed by the Provincial Conference of Social work in January last, concern inter-alia subject dealt with in the Education and Public Health Department. The following brief notes are submitted on each of the resolutions pertaining to this deptt.:-

Resolution 1: WOMEN MEDICAL OFFICERS AND HEALTH VISITORS CONDITIONS OF SERVICE.

The subject of improving the conditions of Service of the women Medical officers, Health Visitors etc., employed in the maternity and child Welfare services of local authorities has received the Government's attention on several occasions in the past. In 1945 the Women Medical Officer's scale of pay was raised from Rs.85-5/2-150 to Rs.100-15/2-220 with an initial pay of Rs.145 on first appointment. Under the general revision of the scales of pay which was introduced in February 1947, the Women Medical Officers' posts have been classified into two grades as follows:-

Grade I Rs.250-15-400

II Rs.100-10-240 (L.M.S. and Medical graduates to start on Rs.160/-)

Similarly the Health Visitor's scale of pay which was originally Rs.50-3/2-80 has been revised as Rs.60-2-100.

In December 1946 the Women Medical Officers held a conference and have passed a number of resolutions for the improvement of the service conditions of the maternity and child welfare services. These resolutions have been referred to the Medical Relief and Public Health Sub-Committee of the Conference and orders will be issued on them on receipt of the this Sub- Committee's report. It does not appear that anything further is necessary on this subject.

No further action.
C.O.C. (J.S.)
3.3

RESOLUTION 2: HOSPITAL SOCIAL SERVICE:

The Govt. are already aware of the need for the development of a hospital social service and the appointment of "almoners". This is one of the recommendations of the Bhore Committee and was recently examined. The difficulty which is encountered in this connection is the lack of qualified personnel. It is observed that a Medical Officer has been deputed abroad for the study of "Social Medicine". The Conference which met in June last considered that this matter may be deferred until the arrival of the Medical Officer in question from deputation.

There does not appear to be any use in taking up this matter for a fresh consideration at this stage.

C.O.C.
J.S.

RESOLUTION NO.3: FACILITIES FOR TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASES

The question of the provision of adequate facilities

PTO

facilities for treatment of venereal disease and for the personal prophylaxis in hospitals has been recently examined along with other recommendation of the Bhore Committee. It was found in that connection that there are Venereal clinics in about 20 hospitals in the Province and that in a very few of them facilities for personal prophylaxis also exist. The extension of these facilities to all hospitals and the establishment of venereal clinics at all hospital centres at the taluk and district levels is inter-connected with the implementation of the Governmen post war scheme 100 and 1001 as these schemes contemplate the establishment of venereal clinics in all reorganised taluk and district Headquarters Hospitals and the appointme of a Special Venereal Diseases Officer in all reorganised District Headquarters Hospitals Dr. Rajan, the Venereal Specialist in the Govt. General Hospital did send a memorandum of suggestions to Government at the request of H.M.(P.H.) but the suggestions made by the doctor were mostly the Bhore Committee's suggestions which can be given effect to only if the post war schemes referred to are put into execution. So, independently of these P.W. Schmes no action can be taken on these suggestions. The subject of planned medical relief and the reorganisation of the Taluk and District Headquarter hospitals is engaging the attantio of the medical Relief and Public Health Committee.

As regards propaganda the P.H. Department is now doing it. The Govt. have recently asked the D.P.H. to keep this subject in view prominently.

One of the suggestions made is that the S.G. should arrange for lectures on Venereal diseases. It is doubtful whether such lectures are necessary for educating laymen on these diseases. The propaganda already being carried on by the P.H. Department seems sufficient.

C.O.C.(J.S.)

RESOLUTION NO.4: HOSPITAL FOR CANCER

This, again, is a matter which was recently considered by Govt. on a recommendation of the Bhore Commit The Cancer Association of Madras has already among its objects the establishment of a modern well equipped Cancer Hospital in Madras, on the model of the Tata Memorial Hospital at Bombay which will serve not only as a centre of treatment but also as a training and Research institute. The project is a big one and it will take time to formulate proposals. The Surgeon-General has been asked to expedite action in this matter.

No special action C.O.C.(J.S.)

RESOLUTION 5: ANTI-LEPROSY WORK

Problems connected with leprosy relief work are being examined by Government as and when the ad hoc Committee on Leprosy makes recommendations. In this way the need for necessary measures will come up for consideration. The Surgeon-General also, will suo motu come up to Government with proposals if action is called for on any of these matters. No special action seems necessary on this resolution.

C.O.C.(J.S.)

RESOLUTION 4 under Group V. INSTITUTION OF A CORPS OF PSYCHIATRIC SOCIAL WORKERS.

This resolution contains a request to the Surgeon-General and the question may be considered if he approaches Government with any proposal.

P.T.O.

RESOLUTION 9 & 10 UNDER GROUP I - IMPROVEMENT OF SLUMS

A copy of the resolutions may be communicated to the commissioner, Corporation of Madras and Chairman, Madras City Improvement Trust.

C.O.C.(J.S.)

There is nothing new in these resolutions. No special action is necessary, except that indicated in the notes above.

C.O.C. 8.3.48.
J.Secy.

H.M.(P.H.) 11.3.

As suggested at 'K' above a draft memo to the Commissioner Corporation of Madras and the Chairman City Improvement Trust is submitted for approval. After ~~the papers~~ issue the papers may be recorded for reference.

T.G.M.
24.3.48

(Memo No.10575 F1/48-1 P.H. dated 24-3-1948)

With reference to orders on p.4 ante the papers may now be

ORDER/Ms. 1039 P.H. dated 1-4-1948

RECORDED.

T.G.M.
27.3.48.

Superintendent
Madras Record Office

Abstract:

Social work - Provincial Conference of Social Work - Resolutions papers recorded.